

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The crank bar may be divided into ~~two~~two portions, a first portion consisting of the rod portion and the operating portion and a second portion consisting of the operating portion; or a first portion consisting of the rod portion and the coupling portion and a second portion consisting of the operating portion. Alternatively, the crank bar may be divided into three portions, i.e., the rod portion, the coupling portion and the operating portion. The divided portions can be made of respectively different materials, can be separately heat-treated to harden only the desired portions, or can be formed to have respectively different cross-sections.